

**CLEAN VERSION OF REPLACEMENT PARAGRAPHS IN
THE SPECIFICATION PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.121(b)**

IN THE SPECIFICATION

On page 4, please delete the paragraph beginning on line 29 and ending on line 30, and replace with the following paragraph:

B₂

Figure 1 (SEQ ID NOS: 1 - 4) shows the alignment of anti-CD40 variable region and human template amino acid sequences.

On the front page of the application, please insert the following paragraph between the "Title of the Invention" and the "Background of the Invention":

B₁

This is a Continuation of copending application(s) 09/434,870, filed on 11/04/99, which claims priority to United States Provisional Application Serial No. 60/159,689, filed 10/14/99.

B

Please insert the attached Sequence Listing as new pages -- 63-65 --.

IN THE CLAIMS

B

Please renumber the Claims pages from pages "63-64" to -- 66-71 --.

IN THE ABSTRACT

B

Please renumber the Abstract page from page "65-67" to -- 72 --.

Please delete the paragraph beginning (in the application as filed) on page 65, line 2 and ending on page 66, line 25 and replace with the following paragraph:

NE.

The invention provides a method of conferring donor CDR binding affinity onto an antibody acceptor variable region framework. The invention also provides a method of simultaneously grafting and optimizing the binding affinity of a variable region binding fragment. A method of optimizing the binding affinity of an antibody variable region is also provided.